



Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption

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Implementation Review Group

Seventh session

Vienna, 20-24 June 2016

Annotated provisional agenda

Provisional agenda

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Annotations

1. Organizational matters

(a) Opening of the session

The seventh session of the Implementation Review Group will be opened on Monday, 20 June 2016, at 10 a.m., in the Vienna International Centre, M-Building, Boardroom B.



(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Group was prepared in accordance with resolution 3/1, entitled “Review mechanism”, adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption at its third session, decision 5/1, entitled “Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption”, adopted by the Conference at its fifth session, and resolution 6/1, entitled “Continuation of the review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption”, adopted by the Conference at its sixth session.

The proposed organization of work (see annex) was prepared in line with the guidance provided by the Conference and by the Implementation Review Group.

2. Review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption*Drawing of lots*

In resolution 6/1, the Conference of the States Parties requested the Group to proceed, at the beginning of its seventh session, to the selection of reviewed and reviewing States parties for the second review cycle by the drawing of lots in accordance with paragraphs 14 and 19 of the terms of reference of the Mechanism. The Conference also requested the Group to hold intersessional meetings open to all States parties for the purpose of the drawing of lots in accordance with paragraph 19 of the terms of reference of the Mechanism and without prejudice to the right of a State party to request that the drawing of lots be repeated at the Group’s subsequent intersessional meeting or regular session.

Moreover, at its first session, the Implementation Review Group decided that States ratifying or acceding to the Convention after the drawing of lots at the first session of the Group would be reviewed starting in the fourth year of the first review cycle. In its resolution 4/1, the Conference endorsed the practice followed by the Group with regard to the procedural issues arising from the drawing of lots.

In accordance with Conference resolution 6/1, an intersessional meeting open to all States parties for the purpose of the drawing of lots is being convened on Friday, 17 June 2016, in the Vienna International Centre, C-Building, Conference Room C3, from 2 to 6 p.m. During the intersessional meeting, lots will be drawn for the selection of States parties under review for the second review cycle, as well as for the reviewing States parties for the first year of the second review cycle, in accordance with paragraphs 14 and 19 of the terms of reference of the Mechanism. In addition, lots will be drawn to select the reviewing States parties for the first cycle reviews of those States parties that have become parties to the Convention since the last drawing of lots, held at the resumed sixth session of the Implementation Review Group.¹

The intersessional meeting is being convened without prejudice to the exercise of the rights of States parties in accordance with the terms of reference of the Mechanism during the seventh session of the Group, and is aimed at enabling the

¹ Since the resumed sixth session of the Group, New Zealand has become a State party. Other States may ratify or accede to the Convention prior to the intersessional meeting to be held on 17 June.

Group to focus on substantive issues during its seventh session. To this end, the Group will be informed of the outcome of the intersessional meeting, and agenda item 2 (on the review of implementation of the Convention) will remain open until the last day of its seventh session.

Progress report

In order to provide the Implementation Review Group with an overview of issues identified during individual country reviews and to seek guidance on addressing challenges encountered during the conduct of reviews, the secretariat has compiled information on the conduct of the reviews of the first cycle, which will be published in document CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/2. This progress report will provide an update on the number of responses received to the self-assessment checklist, the number of direct dialogues conducted, the number of executive summaries and country review reports that have been finalized and the number of country review reports that have been made available on the website of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

The secretariat has made arrangements under agenda item 2 for the scheduling of such trilateral meetings on the fourth day of the session, in line with past practice and taking into account the views expressed by the Group on the usefulness of holding trilateral meetings between States parties under review and reviewing States parties in the ongoing individual country review processes for advancing the review of implementation in order to achieve progress and discuss outstanding issues.

Outcome of reviews

Pursuant to paragraph 35 of the terms of reference of the Review Mechanism, the secretariat should compile the most common and relevant information on successes, good practices, challenges, observations and technical assistance needs contained in the country review reports and include that information, organized by theme, in a thematic implementation report and regional supplementary addenda, for submission to the Group.

The thematic implementation reports and regional addenda should serve as the basis for the analytical work of the Group. On the basis of its deliberations, the Group should submit recommendations and conclusions to the Conference for its consideration and approval.

Thematic reports on chapters III (Criminalization and law enforcement) and IV (International cooperation) of the Convention reflecting the additional information obtained through the individual country review processes and the regional addenda will be submitted to the Group at its seventh session in all six official languages of the United Nations (CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/5, CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/6, CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/7 and CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/8).

Preparing for the second review cycle

At the seventh session of the Group, the thematic discussion of chapters II (Preventive measures) and V (Asset recovery) of the Convention will be facilitated through the organization of discussion panels with panellists from States parties that piloted the review of those chapters. The secretariat will provide an oral update on

the recommendations/outcomes of the respective working groups and the related guidance to the draft self-assessment checklist.

Pursuant to paragraph 36 of the terms of reference, the executive summaries of the country review reports finalized by the sixth session of the Group will be translated and made available in the six official languages of the United Nations as documents of the Implementation Review Group for information purposes only. Several executive summaries will also be made available as conference room papers with a view to being processed in all six official languages for the resumed session of the Group.

In its resolution 6/1, the Conference requested the Group to consider adopting a multi-year workplan to continue its analytical work during the period 2016-2019, designating the information on successes, good practices, challenges, observations and technical assistance needs emanating from the country reviews of one of four chapters (II, III, IV or V) of the Convention as the main topic for each session or reconvened session. To facilitate the deliberations of the Group on the matter, a conference room paper outlining issues for consideration in relation to such a workplan (CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/CRP.2) will be made available to the Group.

In addition, in its resolution 6/1, the Conference requested the Secretariat to continue improving the comprehensive self-assessment checklist for the second cycle of the Review Mechanism, in consultation with States parties and under the guidance of the Group, without prejudice to its comprehensiveness and to the methodology applied during the first cycle, and without prejudice to the launch and commencement of the second cycle. In accordance with this resolution, the secretariat prepared updated versions of the draft comprehensive self-assessment checklist for comments by States parties in December 2015 and February 2016. Following the incorporation of the comments received, the revised draft self-assessment checklist on the implementation of chapters II (Preventive measures) and V (Asset recovery) of the Convention (CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/4) will be made available to the Group at its seventh session, together with a conference room paper containing guidance on how to fill in the revised draft self-assessment checklist on the implementation of those chapters of the Convention (CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/CRP.1). In addition, the updated omnibus survey software containing the revised draft self-assessment checklist will be presented and made available to the Group.

Documentation

Progress report on the implementation of the mandates of the Implementation Review Group: note by the Secretariat (CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/2)

Revised draft self-assessment checklist on the implementation of chapters II (Preventive measures) and V (Asset recovery) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/4)

Regional implementation of chapters III (Criminalization and law enforcement) and IV (International cooperation) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption: report prepared by the Secretariat (CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/5)

Implementation of chapter III (Criminalization and law enforcement) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (part I): thematic report prepared by the Secretariat (CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/6)

Implementation of chapter III (Criminalization and law enforcement) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (part II): thematic report prepared by the Secretariat (CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/7)

Implementation of chapter IV (International cooperation) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption: thematic report prepared by the Secretariat (CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/8)

Executive summaries of country review reports (CAC/COSP/IRG/I/2/1/Add.33 and 34)

Executive summaries of country review reports (CAC/COSP/IRG/I/4/1/Add.27-35)

3. Performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

In its decision 5/1, the Conference of the States Parties decided that the Group should include a new item on the agenda of its future sessions allowing for discussion of relevant information, collected with the support of the Secretariat, in order to facilitate the assessment of the performance of the Review Mechanism and its terms of reference, in accordance with paragraph 48 of the terms of reference, following the completion of the first review cycle.

Also in that decision, the Conference decided that, in the collection of such information, the Group should take into account future requirements for follow-up in accordance with paragraphs 40 and 41 of the terms of reference.

At the seventh session of the Group, the secretariat will provide an oral update on the assessment of the performance of the Mechanism.

In its resolution 6/1, the Conference called upon the Secretariat to continue exploring and, where appropriate, enhancing synergies, in coordination and cooperation with the secretariats of other relevant multilateral mechanisms in the field of anti-corruption. The secretariat will provide an update on actions undertaken in this regard.

In the same resolution, the Conference encouraged States parties to continue voluntarily sharing information on good practices, experiences and relevant measures taken after the completion of their country review reports and to consider providing such information to the Secretariat for publication on its website. Subsequently, a note verbale was sent by the Secretariat inviting States to outline steps they had taken in that regard.

4. Technical assistance

In its resolution 3/1, the Conference of the States Parties decided that the Implementation Review Group would be in charge of following up and continuing the work undertaken previously by the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Technical Assistance.

Reports containing consolidated information on priority areas in technical assistance and activities undertaken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to

support implementation of the Convention at the global, regional and national levels and an analysis of technical assistance needs as emerging from the country review reports and executive summaries thereof were submitted to the Group at its fifth session in the six official languages of the United Nations. The secretariat will provide an oral update on the technical assistance provided, as well as the technical assistance needs identified through the individual country reviews that have been finalized, since the fifth session of the Group.

Paragraph 44 of the terms of reference states that the functions of the Implementation Review Group are to have an overview of the review process in order to identify challenges and good practices and to consider technical assistance requirements in order to ensure effective implementation of the Convention.

In its resolution 4/1, the Conference took into account that, pursuant to paragraph 11 of the terms of reference, one of the goals of the Review Mechanism was to help States parties to identify and substantiate specific needs for technical assistance and to promote and facilitate the provision of technical assistance.

In the same resolution, the Conference recognized the continuing and valuable role of technical assistance within the Review Mechanism, as well as the importance of country-led and country-based integrated and coordinated programming and delivery of technical assistance as an effective means of addressing technical assistance needs of States parties. Also in that resolution, the Conference requested the secretariat to continue to develop a three-tiered approach — global, regional and national — to the delivery of technical assistance in the light of the priority areas identified as a result of the review process.

In its resolution 6/1, the Conference underscored the importance of addressing the technical assistance priorities identified in the country reviews, and invited technical assistance providers to consider those priorities either for new technical assistance programmes or for incorporating them into ongoing programmes.

5. Financial and budgetary matters

In its resolution 3/1, the Conference of the States Parties underlined that the Review Mechanism would require a budget that ensured its efficient, continued and impartial functioning. Pursuant to that resolution, the General Assembly, in its resolution 64/237, requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the Mechanism was adequately funded.

In its resolution 4/1, the Conference decided that the Implementation Review Group should assist it in the fulfilment of its responsibility to consider the budget biennially by engaging with the Secretariat during the intersessional period with regard to expenditures and projected costs related to the Review Mechanism.

In its resolution 6/1, the Conference requested the Secretariat to further examine the shortfall on resource requirements for the functioning of the Review Mechanism, to determine whether it could be addressed through cost-efficiencies or voluntary contributions and to take that shortfall into account when submitting the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019, in accordance with section VII of the terms of reference.

At its seventh session, the Implementation Review Group will have before it a note by the Secretariat (CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/3) containing budgetary information on

expenditures incurred so far for the operation of the Review Mechanism, resources received at the time of writing, both from the regular budget and from voluntary contributions, projected expenditures for the first and second cycles and the current shortfall on resource requirements for the functioning of the Mechanism.

Documentation

Financial and budgetary matters: note by the Secretariat (CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/3)

6. Other matters

In its resolution 4/6, entitled “Non-governmental organizations and the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption”, the Conference of the States Parties decided that briefings for non-governmental organizations would be convened on the margins of the sessions of the Implementation Review Group and conducted by the secretariat in cooperation with a member of the bureau. The Group will receive a summary of the briefings, which are to be held on Thursday, 23 June 2016, on the margins of the seventh session.

7. Provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Implementation Review Group

The Implementation Review Group is to consider and approve, at its seventh session, a provisional agenda for its eighth session, which will be drafted by the secretariat in consultation with the Chair.

8. Adoption of the report of the Implementation Review Group on its seventh session

The Implementation Review Group is to adopt a report on its seventh session, the draft of which will be prepared by the secretariat.

Annex

Proposed organization of work

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
Monday, 20 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	1 (a)	Opening of the session
	1 (b)	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3-6 p.m.	2	Review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption
	2	Review of implementation of the Convention (<i>continued</i>)
Tuesday, 21 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	2	Review of implementation of the Convention (<i>continued</i>)
3-6 p.m.	2	Review of implementation of the Convention (<i>continued</i>)
	3	Performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption
Wednesday, 22 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	4	Technical assistance
3-6 p.m.	4	Technical assistance (<i>continued</i>)
Thursday, 23 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	2	Review of implementation of the Convention (<i>continued</i>)
3-6 p.m.	2	Review of implementation of the Convention (<i>continued</i>)
Friday, 24 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	5	Financial and budgetary matters
	6	Other matters
3-6 p.m.	7	Provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Implementation Review Group
	8	Adoption of the report of the Implementation Review Group on its seventh session